

Benefit Concert
North Shore Hospital Fund

Program



Port Washington Community Orchestra
Peter Mesrobian, Conductor

Program

I

ALLEGRO from SONATA IN F

Handel

Originally written for violin, the Sonata in F Major is part of the standard repertoire of the concert violinist. In this orchestral transcription of the Second Movement, Harold Perry has retained the majestic brilliance and harmonic clarity of the Handelian style.

OVERTURE TO SEMIRAMIDE

Rossini

Gioacchino Rossini's opera SEMIRAMIDE was produced at the very height of his meteoric career. In the Overture the composer makes free use of thematic material taken from the opera itself and associates it with characters and events prominent in the opera. The brilliant orchestra sound combined with such effective dramatic concept makes this overture one of the finest examples of Rossini's creative genius.

II

CONCERTO IN F MINOR FOR CLARINET

Weber

Third Movement: Allegro

Soloist, Benny Goodman.

Benny Goodman was born in Chicago, May 30, 1909. He was one of twelve children and his early musical training was completely dependent on help from institutions that aided tenement children. He was given his first clarinet when he was six but it was not until four years later that his lessons began. By the time he was sixteen, Benny was a member of several outstanding jazz orchestras in Chicago's nightclubs. Simultaneously he continued serious study of the classics under the leading clarinetists of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Since his debut as an orchestra leader at Billy Rose's Musical Hall on Broadway in 1934, Benny Goodman has been a leading figure in popular music throughout the country. Following a pioneer Swing Concert at Carnegie Hall, Mr. Goodman returned to those hallowed halls as concert soloist with the New York Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra. He later appeared in concerts and made recordings with the world renowned Budapest String Quartet. As foremost clarinet virtuoso he has since appeared as guest artist with the leading symphony orchestras of the country. His latest recording is the Concerto for Clarinet and Orchestra by Aaron Copland.

III

INTERLUDE IN JAZZ

Benny Goodman

Teddy Wilson

Bobby Haggart

INTERMISSION

Ushers: Courtesy of Celerity

Program

IV

SLEIGH RIDE

Anderson

Simple melodies cleverly orchestrated in symphonic style are familiar marks of this contemporary American composer. His flavorful tunes are concert favorites of many outstanding concert groups such as the Boston Pops Orchestra.

GAYNE SUITE

Khachaturian

Lullaby

Dance of the Rose Maidens

Aram Khachaturian is a young Armenian-Soviet composer, one of the few contemporaries of importance, who writes in the musical language of the Armenian people. In these two sections of the orchestral suite the mood ranges from the soft hushed tones of the Lullaby to the sharp rhythmic clatter of the colorful peasant Dance. Throughout Khachaturian's works there is that strangely modern Oriental flavor and gusto. As one prominent critic has put it: "... the re-creation of his native music within the bounds of new harmony."

V

SEBASTIAN

Menotti

Barcarolle

Gian-Carlo Menotti has been responsible for many "firsts" in his brilliant musical career. In 1928 at the age of seventeen he arrived from Italy to study at the Curtis School of Music in Philadelphia, thus reversing the usual formula of the American who goes to Europe to study music. In 1939 he wrote the first opera ever commissioned by American radio, and more recently he wrote and directed the first opera ever composed for television. Commissioned by NBC it was given its world premier on Christmas Eve, 1951. The ballet, SEBASTIAN, is another Menotti first. With choreography by Edward Caton based on the composer's own scenario, it is a tale of magic rites, superstition, and witchcraft. The section played tonight includes a brief section of the Introduction followed by the Barcarolle, the lyrical love scene between a young lady and a nobleman of the 19th century.

VI

CARMEN SUITE No. 1

Bizet

1 Prelude

3 Les Dragons d'Alcala

2 Aragonaise

4 Les Toreadors

Bizet arranged two orchestral suites comprised of excerpts from his opera, CARMEN. The sections performed tonight include excerpts from the Preludes to Acts I, IV, II, and I respectively.

THE PORT WASHINGTON COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

Within the short period of one generation some 150 symphony orchestras have been organized and established in a sudden and rapid growth of American musical culture. The Port Washington Community Orchestra, organized in October of 1950 as an Adult Education project of the local Board of Education, is justly proud of being part of this spontaneous cultural growth. The members of the organization extend a cordial invitation to those who, like themselves are eager to create music for pleasure in an atmosphere of friendliness. Prospective members are welcome at any of the Thursday night rehearsals which are held in the Senior High School auditorium. To those who do not play an instrument, many thanks for being part of our listening audience. We hope you will remember that this is your organization and that its success depends in great measure on your interest and support. Due to its position as a non-profit cultural organization, the orchestra is permitted to accept tax-free contributions.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

B. D. Nielson, General Chairman, Robert Allaway, Michael Caprariello, Pierre deRohan, James Fulleylove, Thomas Geoly, Vance Hallack, Robert Hall, Mrs. Sigurd Hartell, Franc Ritter, Mrs. Franc Ritter, Mrs. George Shimmerlik, Music Study Club, Aliga Phi, Alpha Omega, Straub Music Center, McCrea Cobb, David Craig.

PATRONS

Nicholas Fasano

Joseph Hehn, Jr.

Gertrude S. Jacoby

Alphonse Lapera

Manuel Levine

ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

First Violin

Shimmerlik, George,
Concertmaster

Ritter, Franc
Mahigian, Leo
Avakian, Leopold
Tagliaferro, Robert
Rosen, Ursula
Davies, Glenn
Wood, Betty
Craine, Alice
Bowman, William
Hunter, Robert

Second Violin

Fulleylove, James
Mesrobian, Lydia
Ehre, Edward
Fontana, Nicholas
Lynch, Honoria
Blunt, Norma

Viola

Harrison, Lucretia
Liebling, Walter
VanBodegraven, Paul

Chartier, Donald
Bardon, Irving
Scalzetti, Frank

Cello

VanDugteren, A. J.
Owsley, Doreen
Rasmussen, Carmen
Clayton, John
Wheeler, Barbara
Madeheim, Sandra
Stephenson, Nina

Bass

Singleton, Beryl
North, Gene
Robb, Thomas

Flute

Young, Carroll
Lee, James
Arnold, Ambrose

Clarinet

Baker, Lois
Imperial, Elsie

Friedman, Leon

Oboe

Haggerty, Barbara

Bassoon

Harrison, Henry
Rabinowitz, Jerry

French Horn

Schmitt, James
Cramer, Earle

Trumpet

Clifton, Harold
Borkowski, Vincent

Trombone

Wiley, George
Griffin, David

Piano

Hallack, Julia

Percussion

Crane, Robert
Allen, Doreen